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MONTANA

EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

Mar 1980

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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

March 1980

STATE OF MONTANA

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Volume 10 Number 3

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All Labor Force Statistics contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodology procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis, called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate federal funding. Any questions concerning these figures should be directed to:

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* STATEWIDE HIGHLIGHTS *

Montana's civilian labor force dropped from 364,300 in December, 1979 to 348,800 in January, 1980, and now, February's count is up to 353,500. February, 1979 was 5,600 lower at 347,900. The employment picture reflected the same movement. January's employment count rose by 6,300 giving a total of 328,700 employed persons in February, 1980. This is relatively the same employment total as February, 1979 of 323,200.

The number of persons in the civilian labor force without work dropped to 24,800 in February. This is 1,600 lower than January's unemployment count of 26,400, and 5,800 higher than the number of unemployed in December, 1979. February 1979, had only 100 less unemployed persons with a total of 24,700. The unemployment rate dropped from 7.6% in January to 7.0% in February. Again, this is very much the same figure recorded for February, 1979 when the unemployment rate was 7.1%.

High interest rates highlight Montana's economy for this reporting period. Interest rates have caused construction to drop. This has affected the lumber industry where layoffs are still being reported. A Columbia Falls plant is closing temporarily. Mills are currently waiting for the price of lumber to rise and the interest rates to drop. Some construction workers are reported back to work, but for the most part, the majority of construction workers are still out of work. Most residential and commercial projects underway are not that far below last years figures, but when you look at the dollar amounts, there is a considerable difference. The Billings area reported 400 houses under construction in February of 1979 and in February, 1980 reported 20 residential projects under construction, and until the interest rates drop, the housing market will be down, lumber industry will be down and the union benches for construction will be full.

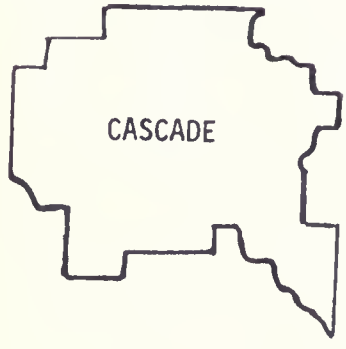
A heavy equipment manufacturing plant is nearly completed in Havre. The target date is March 31, 1980. It is estimated the plant will employ 100-200 persons. A beehive manufacturing plant in Polson has added to its payrolls, and at the same time, the wood stove manufacturing plant in Polson is temporarily reducing its work force.

Montana's retail and service industries have remained stable during March. New businesses in Montana totaled 528 for February, 1980. This brings the 1980 year-to-date total to 1130. In February, 1979 the new business total was 351. The year-to-date total in February, 1979 was 885. Services accounted for 134 of the new businesses, while the trade industry accounted for 123 of the 528 new businesses in Montana.

Agricultural activity consists of feeding, calving, and fencing. Potato sorting and shipping should be underway, depending on the weather. Montana's cattlemen had 2.64 million head of cattle and calves in their herds at the start of 1980, a one percent increase over a year ago. This is 22% less than the peak inventory reached in January of 1974 of 3.38 million.

Labor disputes at state colleges and at refineries around the state continue to affect a large number in the civilian labor force. Employment in the tourism sector may be lower this year. Tourists spent $10 million less in Montana last year than in 1978, the first decline in 15 years. The state's estimated income from tourism in 1979 was $422 million, compared with $432 million in 1978.

GREAT FALLS SMSA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	31.8	32.2	33.1	-0.4	-1.3
Employment	29.4	29.5	30.4	-0.1	-1.0
Unemployment	2.4	2.7	2.7	-0.3	-0.3
Unemployment Rate	*7.5*	*8.3*	*8.1*	*0.8*	*0.6*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A three year $250,000 federal grant was received by the Economic Growth Council, established to combat the employment decline at Malmstrom Air Base. The council plans to focus its efforts on the development of new and established firms, particularly manufacturing, in the community, rather than emphasizing recruiting of business from outside the area.

Commercial and public funded construction is expected to carry most of the construction activity for this year, since the home building industry is experiencing quite a lull due to high interest rates. The first phase of a 320,000 square foot shopping mall be completed in April with two stores comprising 68,000 square feet. No starting date has been set for the second major portion of the center. The flow of traffic on 10th Avenue South will be improved by a proposed bridge expansion from two lanes to four lanes. Bid request is scheduled for June on the bridge construction. The city commissioners have developed a $2.45 million proposal to convert a downtown theater into a professional office building with retail shops on the ground floor.

New business firms in the Great Falls SMSA for the first two months of 1980 totals 85 comparing favorably with last year's 61 and 1978's 78. The majority of these new business firms relate to the trade and service industries. The Job Service Office employment activity also favored the trade and service industries. The construction work force has dwindled such that one out of three persons is now unemployed.

BILLINGS SMSA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	56.1	55.0	52.8	1.1	3.3
Employment	53.0	51.9	50.1	1.1	2.9
Unemployment	3.1	3.1	2.7	--	0.4
Unemployment Rate	*5.5*	*5.6*	*5.1*	*(0.1)*	*0.4*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Billings SMSA remains stable for this reporting period with some new businesses opening and also claims coming from a number of carpenters and laborers in the construction industry. Claims continue to come from the manufacturing sector also.

A department store is opening in a new shopping center. They will be hiring 30 to 40 persons in April for an early May opening. Joining the discount store in this shopping center will be a fitness club, a Mexican restaurant, a beauty shop, and an auto parts chain. At the same time we have reports of two food stores closing. Other businesses which are closing include a fabric shop, a packing plant, a door manufacturing plant and a construction company which declared bankruptcy. These closings left approximately 100 people without work.

There was very little construction reported in the Billings area for March. An office/warehouse complex is under construction. Construction costs on this project are $1.6 million. Approximately 40% of the claims filed at local offices are coming from the construction industry. Another 20-30% of claims filed are related to the manufacturing industry. February building permits totaled $1,658,392 for the Billings area. In February, 1979 there was $4,437,200 in building permits, which is a difference of $2,778,808. Building permits for the year are down by $1,471,964. There were 20 residential homes under construction in February. This compares to a total of 400 homes under construction in the Billings area for February, 1979. These figures show that the housing market continues in its slump during early 1980.

BILLINGS SMSA (Cont.)

New businesses in Billings totaled 83 in February. This compares to 56 new businesses for February, 1979. The 1980 year-to-date total is 163, while the year-to-date total for February, 1979 was 155. Services listed the greatest number of new businesses and corporations with 28. Next was non-profit services with 13 and the trade industry had 10 new businesses.

ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	31.8	31.0	33.2	.8	-1.4
Employment	29.6	28.8	30.6	.8	-1.0
Unemployment	2.2	2.2	2.6	--	-.4
Unemployment Rate	*6.8*	*7.0*	*7.9*	*-.2*	*-1.1*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Activity in the uptown Butte area highlights economic activity this period. A Kalispell based department store may open a store in the uptown area and eventually employ 20 to 25 people. Up to $100,000 may be spent remodeling 24,000 square feet in an existing facility; however, nothing is certain at this time. Also in the uptown area, $302,000 will be spent by a public utility company remodeling office space and 4 new businesses should open soon in a new mini-mall. A new motel in Butte, though not uptown, is scheduled to open in March with the facility over 50% completed. The new motel will have 151 rooms and employ 25 people.

An electronics manufacturing firm, looking for a rural setting for a plant location, is considering the Dillon area. After plant construction initial employment would be 30 to 50 with possibly 500 being employed by 1981. The majority of employees would be women and a 15 to 20 thousand square foot facility would need to be constructed. No dates have been released on when work might begin and negotiations are continuing.

Retail trade activity varied in the LMA this period. In Butte, reports are that sales have not dropped compared to last year. In Dillon, however, retail and wholesale trade activity is quite slow. A small restaurant prospered this period in Dillon and 5 employees returned to work; and a local soft drink distributor is constructing a new warehouse with two employees working in the building.

ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA (cont.)

Most construction activity in the LMA was curtailed through the period due to the weather. Work started up temporarily on a highway near Lima and ten heavy equipment operators were employed. Weather forced an end to activity, though, and work will remain slow until the weather warms up. Agricultural activity was slow also this period with occassional demand for feeders. Ten workers were hired by potato growers who have been shut down since December in the Dillon area.

Following a trend throughout the Northwest, a small mine operator in the Dillon area reports success in operating a gold/silver mine. Mine prices for precious metals have prompted the reopening of old mines throughout the area -- many with only a few employees. Though this specific mine has only 2 employees, it joins other small operators in Phillipsburg, Glasgow, and Boulder who have reentered the market only recently.

BOZEMAN LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	25.8	25.0	25.5	0.8	0.3
Employment	23.9	23.2	24.0	0.7	-0.1
Unemployment	1.9	1.8	1.5	0.1	0.4
Unemployment Rate	*7.5*	*7.2*	*6.1*	*0.3*	*1.4*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Many projects with planned spring and summer construction are being delayed due to difficulty in selling bond issues in a flooded, high interest market. The Bozeman city commission hired a financial consulting firm in hopes of selling three bond issues including library, water system, and sewer improvement plan. The state Board of Regents recommended that a proposed $4.5 million married student housing project be postponed until next fall at MSU. The current bond interest rate is above Montana's ceiling on municipal revenue bonds of 9%; thus a $1.2 million sewer treatment improvement project in Livingston will be delayed. Also, the downtown Bozeman revitalization plans are waiting for low interest loan funding from the Small Business Administration. The initial phase of the plan includes landscaping and renovating developments.

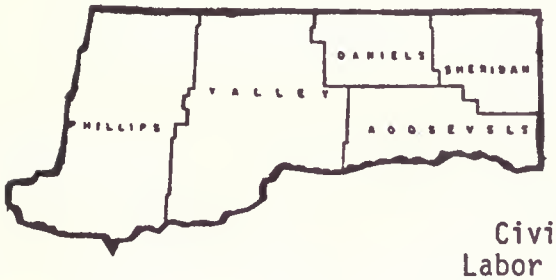
BOZEMAN LMA (cont.)

In the Livingston area two research programs dealing with energy development will start soon. Two 56 foot towers will be erected to hold a 25 kilowatt wind generator. Also, a 160 foot tower shall be installed by the Department of Energy to measure high winds.

A labor dispute involving laborers, electricians, and plumbers at the university was settled March 14, 1980 having prevailed for sixty-four days. A labor dispute with a mobile home manufacturer is continuing in Belgrade.

Several stores are conducting interviews for positions in the new mall that will open in mid-May. Some agriculture jobs are being requested. Overall job orders are sluggish in all industries(except for the mall stores) at the Job Service Office. A Bozeman printing firm plans to quit business and release sixteen employees.

GLASGOW LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

(In Thousands)

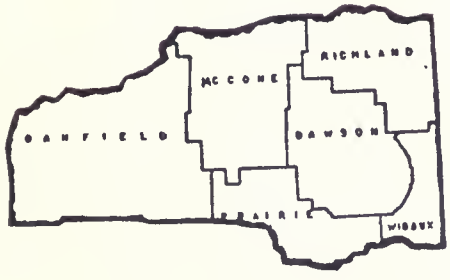
	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	16.5	16.0	15.6	.5	.9
Employment	15.7	15.1	14.8	.6	.9
Unemployment	.8	.9	.8	-.1	--
Unemployment Rate	*4.9*	*5.7*	*5.2*	*-.8*	*-.3*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

There was little activity in the LMA this period for all occupation groups. No building permits have been issued in the city of Glasgow since November of 1979 and the weather is not entirely to blame. The outlook for the next few months in construction activity is not too good. Reports from the retail trade sector are that receipts are below the level of last year at this time. Seventeen workers at a Ft. Peck power dispatching station will be transferred soon to a North Dakota location.

Positive developments in the LMA's economy include two seismograph crews working in the area. Additional activity is anticipated through the summer. Employment levels at a Wolf Point tribal industrial park are back to December levels after falling early this year. Work has resumed at a gold mine in the area, but little hiring has been done so far. A major problem faced by workers is a shortage of housing in the immediate area. Potential uses for an abandoned radar station are being discussed, though nothing has been decided yet.

GLENDIVE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	13.8	13.4	13.5	.4	.3
Employment	13.2	12.9	13.0	.3	.2
Unemployment	.6	.5	.5	.1	.1
Unemployment Rate	*4.1*	*3.9*	*3.7*	*.2*	*.4*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

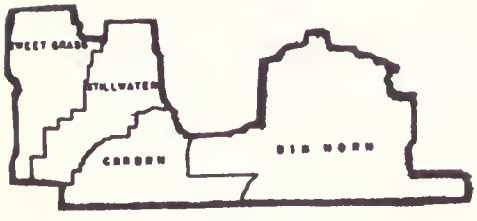
Potential activity in the Circle area highlights the LMA's economy this period. Two projects, which are only in the planning and negotiation stages at this time, could have dramatic and long lasting effects on the area. The first project concerns construction of two 500-megawatt coal-fired electricity generating plants near Circle. The site is one of three under consideration and no decisions have been made at this time. The second project is locating a coal gasification plant near Circle; again, nothing is certain at this time. Studies are also being made on constructing an ethanol production plant near Glendive. Up to 300,000 gallons of ethanol may be produced each year to use in mixing with gasoline.

The outlook for oilfield development in Dawson County through 1980 appears good at this time. Activity in acquiring leases has been higher so far this year than in 1979 and rising prices for oil will make it economically feasible to drill deeper. Oil field activity so far this year has been stable -- even through the cold weather -- but there has been little new hiring.

Construction activity tapered off this period due to cold weather and lack of work. In Glendive, a new gas station/convenience store is nearly complete and work will begin soon on a new department store. In Sidney, work continued on a savings and loan building, a 12-unit apartment complex, and several other small projects. Several units in the new mini-mall in Sidney are due to open soon.

Activity in agriculture was stable with livestock feeding and calving the major activities. Retail trade ranged from stable in Glendive to slow in Sidney and no new hiring was made this period.

HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	12.0	11.7	11.7	3.0	3.0
Employment	11.2	10.9	11.0	3.0	2.0
Unemployment	0.8	0.8	0.7	0	1.0
Unemployment Rate	*6.5*	*7.1*	*5.8*	*-0.6*	*0.7*

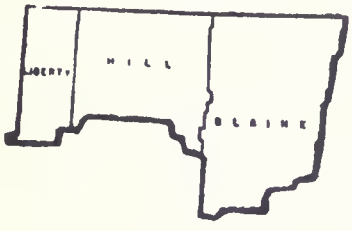
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The winter carnival weekend at Red Lodge drew many spectators and winter sports activists. In fact, the merchants and promotors enjoyed the largest crowd in the history of the carnival.

Hardin area's alfalfa hay has found a new market in Japan. The alfalfa hay is compressed into cubes for shipping to Japan and will be used in manufacturing breakfast cereal. Other agricultural activity in the LMA is depicted by the start of the calving season.

A new television station plans on initiating transmission in July; the main business office will be located in Hardin with a satellite office located in Billings.

HAVRE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

(In Thousands)

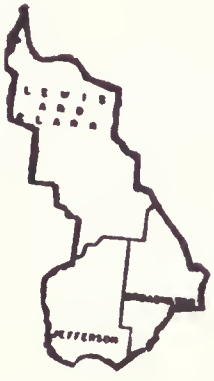
	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	12.5	12.2	12.1	.3	.4
Employment	11.7	11.3	11.3	.4	.4
Unemployment	.8	.9	.8	-.1	--
Unemployment Rate	*6.7*	*7.6*	*6.4*	*-.9*	*.3*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Economic activity in the LMA was mostly slow through the period due to cold weather and broader economic considerations. However, the outlook for spring and summer promises some construction activity and employment opportunities in manufacturing. Work continued through the period on two major projects -- an agriculture manufacturing facility and a building to house an implement dealer. The new manufacturing building should be completed March 31 and eventually 100-200 people will be employed there. Contracts were let this period for a new library at Northern Montana College which will cost over $2 million. Work is expected to begin soon on a new bank building and a new grocery/drug store.

Hiring in agriculture occupations was slow through the period since little snow has made feeding operations relatively easy. Hiring in non-agriculture jobs was also slow the entire period. Over 50 jobs may be terminated in the Havre school system due to budget costs. Many workers may be rehired, though, if a mill levy is set and passed.

HELENA LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	26.5	26.6	27.2	-.1	-.7
Employment	24.9	24.7	25.2	.2	-.3
Unemployment	1.6	1.9	2.0	-.3	-.4
Unemployment Rate	*6.0*	*7.0*	*7.4*	*-1.0*	*-1.4*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Two conditional-use permits were granted this period for shopping malls in Helena. A total of three permits have been granted, however, it is unlikely three regional malls will be built. Eventual construction of any one mall will depend on decisions made by national department stores as to where to locate. Decisions by major retailers are not expected until May of this year. Notwithstanding recent developments, a $10 million project to expand an existing shopping mall in Helena is still expected to begin this spring.

The expansion program announced last fall by a Helena hospital is being evaluated by a state regulatory agency. No firm decision will be made on the $10 million project until late April. Construction is scheduled to begin this year. Plans were announced this period by the state architect for a $4 million remodeling project of the State Capitol building. Legislative approval for the project is required, however. Construction will begin this spring, though, on a $6 million Justice Building Complex in Helena.

Spurts of warm weather during the period allowed several construction projects to get started. In agriculture occupations there were occasional calls for calvers, lambers, and ranch hands. Recent snow in the area brightens the outlook for summer irrigation water supplies and moisture for winter wheat crops.

Retail trade activity was slow this period and particularly hard hit have been real estate agencies and automobile dealers. Cut backs in fuel allocations to private air services have caused three lay offs in Helena so far this year.

A shortage of experienced bookkeepers and typists persists in the Helena area. There was hiring this period of telephone operators and clerical workers. Employers have been inquiring about spring help - especially in sales and service areas.

KALISPELL LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	38.3	38.1	36.7	0.2	1.6
Employment	34.3	33.9	33.0	0.4	1.3
Unemployment	4.0	4.2	3.7	(0.2)	0.3
Unemployment Rate	*10.3*	*11.0*	*10.0*	*(0.7)*	*0.3*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

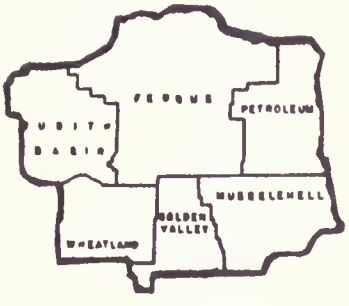
Little change is seen in the Kalispell LMA for March. Layoffs continue to be seen in the lumber and construction industries with little activity in most other industrial sectors. The forest service commenced shutting down the woods. Because of this a great deal of claims are being filed from that sector as excess earnings are running out. More layoffs are also seen in the mills around the area. Lumber prices are said to be the main factor involved. A Columbia Falls plant will be closing temporarily and leaving 85 persons out of work. Mills are waiting for lumber prices to rise and interest rates to drop before they start increasing production in their mills. The forest service let contracts for cleanup slashing on the Deep Granite Creek burn area, resulting in several fallers returning to work.

The lack of orders for wood stoves has caused a stove manufacturing plant to lay off more people in Polson. At the same time, a beehive manufacturing plant is adding to its payroll.

Construction was very slow during this reporting period. More layoffs were reported and more claims continued to be filed in local offices. A contractor was selected for $510,000 addition to the county court house in Polson. Construction on this project is to start in the spring. There is a $475,000 expansion project underway at a Columbia Falls bank. Retail and service sectors remain slow with only occasional openings for replacement help.

Agricultural activity remains unchanged. Main activities during March include feeding and calving. A few calls for farm and ranch workers were received. Seed potato sorting and shipping is an upcoming activity, depending on the weather.

LEWISTOWN LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	10.2	10.0	9.9	0.2	0.3
Employment	9.6	9.3	9.3	0.3	0.3
Unemployment	0.6	0.7	0.6	-0.1	0
Unemployment Rate	*5.7*	*6.7*	*5.5*	*-1.0*	*0.2*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

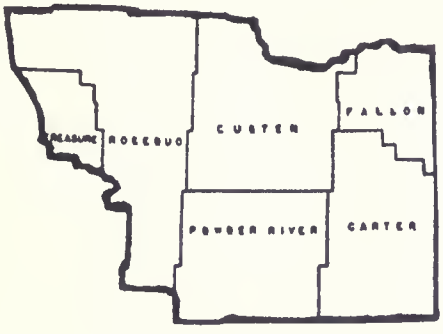
The railroad lines in the LMA have a tenative approval for purchase by another railroad company. The 475 mile track purchase includes the area from Harlowton to Great Falls via Lewistown and the Lewistown-Heath line. Many of the area's rail employees will retain their jobs.

While one airline plans to discontinue service, another airline company filed a request with the CAB for commercial air service in Lewistown. The new air service plans a late spring or early summer takeoff date.

Livestock sales recorded a record year at a local auction yard. Central Montana has become the fastest growing cattle aution area in the state throughout last year with livestock consignors coming from as far as Idaho.

The local Job Service Office reports increased demand for help due to calving and readying equipment for spring's work.

MILES CITY LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	13.9	13.6	14.0	0.3	-0.1
Employment	13.2	12.8	13.1	0.4	0.1
Unemployment	0.7	0.8	0.9	-0.1	-0.2
Unemployment Rate	*5.3*	*5.9*	*6.1*	*-0.6*	*-0.8*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Activity in the construction sector should begin soon as weather conditions have improved throughout the area. Some work has resumed on the elementary school in Miles City. Peak construction force on the generating plants in Colstrip will probably reach 2,000 union workers and 220 non-union workers.

Another coal mine is being planned with a mid-1980 opening. The goal of the Ashland-Bisney area mine is 12 million tons of coal per year for twenty years. The required mining staff is estimated to be between 375 and 450 workers.

A nationally affiliated motel chain has expressed interest in building a 150-200 unit motel in Miles City. Financing costs will play a major role in determining the commencement of construction on the new motel.

MISSOULA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	48.3	48.2	46.7	0.1	1.6
Employment	44.0	43.6	42.6	0.4	1.4
Unemployment	4.3	4.6	4.1	(0.3)	0.2
Unemployment Rate	*8.9*	*9.5*	*8.7*	*(0.6)*	*0.2*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

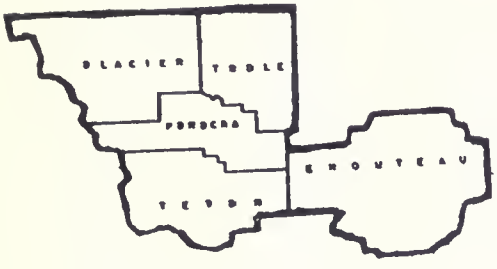
Economic activity in the Missoula LMA is stable during this reporting period. Layoffs continue in the lumber industry as prices remain low. A layoff at a lumber company in Missoula idled 35 persons. Ten of these may possibly be re-assigned more work in the future. A large mill in Missoula has reported some layoffs and the target date for closure is late March. Most of the 300 workers will be idled by that time. Most logging companies in the area will also be shut down due to spring break up. Low lumber prices and high interest rates have affected most of the lumber industry.

Very little construction was reported for March. Most construction is ongoing construction on a school addition, a food store, and a savings and loan in Hamilton. Ground has been broken for a building and loan office which will be a new business in Missoula. Building Permits for February, 1980 have shown an increase in both residential and commercial building over last year; however, the valuation figures are down by one-half million dollars, due mostly to the high interest rates.

The Retail and Service area remains slow. A Missoula sporting goods store laid off 12 people, due in part to the end of the ski season. A shoe store is reportedly going out of business. A Peat Moss plant, at the same time, has hired 2 shifts. Some workers are returning to work as a result of warmer weather, which should raise the employment levels in the next few weeks. Little change is noted in the other industrial groups. Agricutural activity consists of calving, feeding and fencing. Potato sorting and shipping should also be underway depending on the weather.

The Missoula LMA had 83 new businesses in February. This compares to 53 for February, 1979. The year-to-date total for 1980 is 160. This is only 3 higher than the year to date total for February, 1979. Nineteen of these new businesses in February were in services. Next was trade with ten new businesses.

SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	16.0	15.6	15.9	0.4	0.1
Employment	14.9	14.3	14.6	0.6	0.3
Unemployment	1.1	1.3	1.3	(0.2)	(0.2)
Unemployment Rate	*7.0*	*8.2*	*7.9*	*(1.2)*	*(0.9)*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Economic activity in the Shelby-Cut Bank LMA is stable at this time. Activity will pick up as the weather improves. The new 50 unit motel in the shopping center area in Cut Bank is progressing rapidly. Another business will also be added to the 12 presently open in the shopping center. Seventy-seven businesses have either opened their doors, remodeled or changed hands in the past year in Cut Bank. This LMA reported 19 new businesses in February, 1980 bringing the 1980 year-to-date total to 59. In February 1979 there were 21 new businesses with a year-to-date total of 35.

The Cut Bank refinery was purchased by a Brigham, Utah firm. The labor dispute was settled on March 4. Workers will receive approximately $1.00/hr. pay raise and additional benefits paid on medical insurance. Oilfield activity in the area is steady with several new hires noted.

Retail trade has been steady and comparable to last year. Main street merchants in Cut Bank have an optimistic view of the future. The employment outlook shows openings for restaurant help and office clerks. There is a continued need for hospital help in the Shelby area. Most industrial sectors will have more openings as the weather breaks and outdoor jobs are going again.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

February 1980

Program	New Enrollees	Job Placements	End of Month Enrollment
WIN	360	106	2623
CETA-CEP	33	41	260
CETA-OJT	34	21	160
JOB CORPS	45	21	480
PSE TITLE II	22	16	343
PSE TITLE VI	13	16	164
PSE TITLE VI-A	15	8	139
CETA-AWE	44	37	227
HIRE II	0	0	0
YETP/OJT	0	2	15
STIP II	0	1	0
YETP/INST	0	0	9

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S. 1/

All Items

(1967 = 100)

Series	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	*Percent Change to Current month from:* Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
CPI-U	*236.4*	*233.2*	*207.1*	*1.4*	*14.1*
CPI-W	*236.5*	*233.3*	*207.1*	*1.4*	*14.2*

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED

February 1980

Social Characteristics	*Percent of Total Insured Unemployment*
Non-White	*14.9%*
Female	*18.1%*
Youth	*6.8%*
Over 45	*22.0%*

1/ The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures changes in prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups. The CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) covers about 40 percent of the total noninstitutional population. The CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) covers about 80 percent of the total noninstitutional population, including wage earners and clerical workers, salaried workers, the self-employed, retirees, and the unemployed.

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table I

RESIDENCE DATA

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2/]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1/] Montana	Percent[1/] U. S.	
1978								
January	337.1	309.7	287.7	22.0	27.4	*8.1*	*7.0*	*
February	339.5	313.1	289.2	23.9	26.4	*7.8*	*6.9*	*
March	350.8	323.7	295.1	28.6	27.1	*7.7*	*6.6*	*
April	361.8	340.0	304.9	35.1	21.8	*6.0*	*5.8*	*
May	369.1	350.2	314.1	36.1	18.9	*5.1*	*5.5*	.1
June	388.1	364.1	322.9	41.2	24.0	*6.2*	*6.2*	.4
July	393.9	372.1	328.0	44.1	21.8	*5.5*	*6.3*	.2
August	395.4	375.1	327.9	47.2	20.3	*5.1*	*5.8*	.1
September	383.4	365.6	328.8	36.8	17.8	*4.6*	*6.0*	.1
October	369.6	352.9	321.6	31.3	16.7	*4.5*	*5.4*	.1
November	365.0	344.9	318.0	26.9	20.1	*5.5*	*5.5*	*
December	362.3	340.5	317.4	23.1	21.8	*6.0*	*5.6*	*
Avg.	368.0	346.0	313.0	33.0	22.0	*6.0*	*6.0*	.1
1979								
January	348.8	320.8	299.5	21.3	28.0	*8.0*	*6.4*	*
February	347.9	323.2	300.0	23.2	24.7	*7.1*	*6.4*	1.8
March	353.2	330.7	302.9	27.8	22.5	*6.4*	*6.1*	*
April	363.5	343.3	309.1	34.2	20.2	*5.6*	*5.5*	*
May	372.0	355.3	320.0	35.3	16.7	*4.5*	*5.2*	*
June	390.6	370.4	330.2	40.2	20.2	*5.2*	*6.0*	*
July	390.6	372.4	329.4	43.0	18.2	*4.7*	*5.8*	*
August	391.5	376.0	330.0	46.0	15.5	*4.0*	*5.9*	*
September	380.8	367.5	331.6	35.9	13.3	*3.5*	*5.6*	*
October	371.1	357.3	326.8	30.5	13.8	*3.7*	*5.6*	*
November	365.5	349.8	323.6	26.2	15.7	*4.3*	*5.6*	*
December	364.3	345.3	322.7	22.6	19.0	*5.2*	*5.6*	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	*5.1*	*5.8*	.2
1980								
January	348.8	322.4	301.6	20.8	26.4	*7.6*	*6.8*	*
February	353.5	328.7	306.1	22.6	24.8	*7.0*	*6.8*	1.1
March	*360.0*	*335.6*	*308.4*	*27.2*	*24.4*	*6.8*		.7
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

Table II

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1978								
January	32.2	29.4	28.5	.9	2.8	*8.7*	*8.1*	*
February	32.5	29.8	28.9	.9	2.7	*8.4*	*7.8*	*
March	33.2	30.6	29.5	1.1	2.6	*7.8*	*7.7*	*
April	33.9	31.9	30.5	1.4	2.0	*5.9*	*6.0*	*
May	34.5	32.6	31.2	1.4	1.9	*5.6*	*5.1*	*
June	36.2	33.4	31.8	1.6	2.8	*7.6*	*6.2*	*
July	35.1	32.8	31.1	1.7	2.3	*6.6*	*5.5*	*
August	35.8	33.5	31.6	1.9	2.3	*6.3*	*5.1*	*
September	35.3	33.1	31.6	1.5	2.2	*6.2*	*4.6*	*
October	34.4	32.4	31.2	1.2	2.0	*5.8*	*4.5*	*
November	34.3	31.8	30.7	1.1	2.5	*7.3*	*5.5*	*
December	34.2	31.6	30.7	..9	2.6	*7.6*	*6.0*	*
Avg.	34.3	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.4	*7.0*	*6.0*	*
1979								
January	33.5	30.4	29.6	.8	3.1	*9.3*	*8.0*	*
February	33.1	30.4	29.5	.9	2.7	*8.1*	*7.1*	*
March	33.4	31.0	29.9	1.1	2.4	*7.3*	*6.4*	*
April	33.8	31.7	30.3	1.4	2.1	*6.3*	*5.6*	*
May	34.2	32.4	31.0	1.4	1.8	*5.3*	*4.5*	*
June	35.8	33.3	31.7	1.6	2.5	*6.9*	*5.2*	*
July	35.2	33.1	31.4	1.7	2.1	*6.1*	*4.7*	*
August	34.9	33.0	31.2	1.8	1.9	*5.3*	*4.0*	*
September	34.4	32.8	31.4	1.4	1.6	*4.6*	*3.5*	*
October	33.6	32.0	30.8	1.2	1.6	*4.7*	*3.7*	*
November	33.5	31.7	30.7	1.0	1.8	*5.3*	*4.3*	*
December	33.1	31.2	30.3	.9	1.9	*5.6*	*5.2*	*
Avg.	34.0	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.1	*6.2*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	32.2	29.5	28.7	.8	2.7	*8.3*	*7.6*	*
February	31.8	29.4	28.5	.9	2.4	*7.5*	*7.0*	*
March	*32.1*	*29.9*	*28.8*	*1.1*	*2.2*	*7.0*	*6.8*	*
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table III

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

RESIDENCE DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1] County	Percent[1] State	
1978								
January	50.4	47.2	46.2	1.0	3.2	*6.4*	*8.1*	*
February	50.4	47.4	46.3	1.1	3.0	*5.9*	*7.8*	*
March	51.6	48.3	47.0	1.3	3.3	*6.3*	*7.7*	*
April	52.0	49.7	48.1	1.6	2.3	*4.4*	*6.0*	*
May	52.8	50.7	49.0	1.7	2.1	*4.0*	*5.1*	*
June	55.1	52.4	50.5	1.9	2.7	*4.9*	*6.2*	*
July	54.6	52.2	50.2	2.0	2.4	*4.3*	*5.5*	*
August	55.1	52.8	50.6	2.2	2.3	*4.2*	*5.1*	*
September	55.8	53.7	52.0	1.7	2.1	*3.7*	*4.6*	*
October	54.4	52.7	51.3	1.4	1.7	*3.1*	*4.5*	*
November	54.5	52.0	50.8	1.2	2.5	*4.6*	*5.5*	*
December	54.6	52.1	51.0	1.1	2.5	*4.7*	*6.0*	*
Avg.	53.4	50.9	49.4	1.5	2.5	*4.7*	*6.0*	*
1979								
January	53.2	50.0	49.0	1.0	3.2	*6.1*	*8.0*	*
February	52.8	50.1	49.0	1.1	2.7	*5.1*	*7.1*	*
March	53.1	50.7	49.4	1.3	2.4	*4.5*	*6.4*	*
April	54.1	52.1	50.5	1.6	2.0	*3.8*	*5.6*	*
May	54.8	53.1	51.5	1.6	1.7	*3.1*	*4.5*	*
June	56.8	54.7	52.9	1.8	2.1	*3.7*	*5.2*	*
July	57.1	55.2	53.2	2.0	1.9	*3.3*	*4.7*	*
August	56.9	55.2	53.1	2.1	1.7	*2.9*	*4.0*	*
September	57.1	55.6	54.0	1.6	1.5	*2.5*	*3.5*	*
October	55.9	54.5	53.1	1.4	1.4	*2.6*	*3.7*	*
November	56.1	54.3	53.1	1.2	1.8	*3.1*	*4.3*	*
December	56.2	54.1	53.1	1.0	2.1	*3.7*	*5.2*	*
Avg.	55.3	53.3	51.8	1.5	2.0	*3.7*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	55.0	51.9	50.9	1.0	3.1	*5.6*	*7.6*	*
February	56.1	53.0	52.0	1.0	3.1	*5.5*	*7.0*	.7
March	*56.2*	*53.3*	*52.1*	*1.2*	*2.9*	*5.2*	*6.8*	.3
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table IV

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	353.5	349.0	347.9	4.5	5.6
EMPLOYED PERSONS	328.7	322.7	323.2	6.0	5.5
Persons Employed in Agriculture	22.6	20.8	23.2	1.8	- .6
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	24.8	26.3	24.7	-1.5	.1
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*7.0*	*7.5*	*7.1*	*- .5*	*- .1*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*5.6*	*5.9*	*5.7*	*- .3*	*- .1*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*276.8*	*277.8*	*268.5*	*-1.0*	*8.3*
MANUFACTURING	*25.7*	*25.9*	*27.1*	*- .2*	*-1.4*
Durable Goods	*16.6*	*16.7*	*18.1*	*- .1*	*-1.5*
24 Lumber and Wood Products	*10.1*	*10.2*	*11.7*	*- .1*	*-1.6*
33 Primary Metal Industries	*3.1*	*3.2*	*3.3*	*- .1*	*- .2*
Other Durable Goods	*3.4*	*3.3*	*3.1*	*.1*	*.3*
Nondurable Goods	*9.0*	*9.2*	*9.0*	*- .2*	*0*
20 Food and Kindred Products	*4.1*	*4.3*	*4.1*	*- .2*	*0*
27 Printing and Publishing	*2.4*	*2.3*	*2.3*	*.1*	*.1*
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	*1.1*	*1.1*	*1.0*	*0*	*.1*
Other Nondurable Goods	*1.4*	*1.5*	*1.5*	*- .1*	*- .1*
MINING	*7.3*	*7.6*	*7.0*	*- .3*	*.3*
10 Metal Mining	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.0*	*0*	*.1*
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	*2.2*	*2.2*	*2.0*	*0*	*.2*
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	*3.0*	*3.3*	*3.0*	*- .3*	*0*
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	*11.5*	*11.7*	*10.8*	*- .2*	*.7*
15 General Building Contractors	*4.0*	*4.0*	*4.0*	*0*	*0*
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	*2.6*	*2.7*	*2.4*	*- .1*	*.2*
17 Special Trade Contractors	*5.0*	*5.0*	*4.5*	*0*	*.5*
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	*22.8*	*22.7*	*21.8*	*- .1*	*.8*
40 Railroad Transportation	*7.0*	*7.0*	*6.8*	*0*	*.2*
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	*6.6*	*6.6*	*6.5*	*0*	*.1*
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	*9.0*	*9.1*	*8.5*	*- .1*	*.5*
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	*71.9*	*72.3*	*69.1*	*- .4*	*2.8*
Wholesale Trade	*17.3*	*17.4*	*16.1*	*- .1*	*1.2*
Retail Trade	*54.6*	*54.9*	*53.0*	*- .3*	*1.6*
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	*8.3*	*8.6*	*8.2*	*- .3*	*.1*
54 Food Stores	*7.8*	*7.9*	*7.5*	*- .1*	*.3*
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	*8.7*	*8.7*	*8.5*	*0*	*.2*
58 Eating and Drinking Places	*19.1*	*18.9*	*18.2*	*.2*	*.9*
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	*10.7*	*10.8*	*10.5*	*- .1*	*.2*
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	*12.7*	*12.7*	*12.2*	*0*	*.5*
SERVICES	*54.2*	*53.9*	*51.8*	*.3*	*2.4*
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	*5.9*	*6.0*	*5.8*	*- .1*	*.1*
72 Personal Services	*2.4*	*2.4*	*2.4*	*0*	*0*
80 Medical and other Health Services	*17.7*	*17.7*	*17.0*	*0*	*.7*
Other Services	*28.1*	*27.7*	*26.6*	*.4*	*1.5*
GOVERNMENT	*71.0*	*71.1*	*68.6*	*- .1*	*2.4*
91 Federal Government	*11.5*	*11.5*	*12.4*	*0*	*- .9*
92 State Colleges and Universities	*8.2*	*8.2*	*8.4*	*0*	*-.2*
92 Other State Government	*10.5*	*10.6*	*10.9*	*- .1*	*-.4*
93 Local Education	*26.4*	*28.3*	*24.0*	*.1*	*2.4*
93 Other Local Government	*14.4*	*14.4*	*12.9*	*0*	*1.5*

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.*

2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

February 1980

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Feb 1980	Jan 1980	Feb 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan 1980	Feb 1979
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	31.8	32.2	33.1	-.4	-1.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS	29.4	29.5	30.4	-.1	-1.0
Persons Employed in Agriculture	.9	.8	.9	.1	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.4	2.7	2.7	-.3	-.3
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*7.5*	*8.3*	*8.1*	*-.8*	*-.6*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*6.6*	*6.8*	*7.2*	*.2*	*-.6*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*28.8*	*28.9*	*28.9*	*-.1*	*-.1*
Manufacturing	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.6*	*0*	*.1*
Contract Construction	*1.1*	*1.1*	*1.3*	*0*	*-.2*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*0*	*0*
Trade	*9.6*	*9.7*	*9.4*	*-.1*	*.2*
Wholesale Trade	*2.9*	*2.9*	*2.6*	*0*	*.3*
Retail Trade	*6.7*	*6.8*	*6.8*	*-.1*	*-.1*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.1*	*0*	*0*
Services and Mining	*6.6*	*6.6*	*6.6*	*0*	*0*
Government	*5.8*	*5.8*	*5.9*	*0*	*-.1*
Federal Government	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.9*	*0*	*-.1*
State and Local Government	*4.0*	*4.0*	*4.0*	*0*	*0*

1 Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; Includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.
Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
Current month preliminary.

Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.

Table VI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

February 1980

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Feb 1980	Jan 1980	Feb 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan 1980	Feb 1979
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	56.1	55.0	52.8	1.1	3.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS	53.0	51.9	50.1	1.1	2.9
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	-.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	3.1	3.1	2.7	0	.4
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*5.5*	*5.6*	*5.1*	*-.1*	*.4*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*4.6*	*4.4*	*4.2*	*.2*	*.4*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*48.7*	*48.1*	*45.1*	*.6*	*3.6*
Manufacturing	*4.9*	*4.7*	*4.2*	*.2*	*.7*
Contract Construction	*2.8*	*2.8*	*2.0*	*0*	*.8*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*4.9*	*4.9*	*4.5*	*0*	*.4*
Trade	*16.2*	*16.2*	*15.4*	*0*	*.8*
Wholesale Trade	*5.8*	*5.8*	*5.1*	*0*	*.7*
Retail Trade	*10.4*	*10.4*	*10.3*	*0*	*.1*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.3*	*2.3*	*2.2*	*0*	*.1*
Services and Mining	*9.9*	*9.7*	*9.2*	*.2*	*.7*
Government	*7.8*	*7.5*	*7.5*	*.3*	*.3*
Federal Government	*1.5*	*1.5*	*1.4*	*0*	*.1*
State and Local Government	*6.3*	*6.0*	*6.1*	*.3*	*.2*

[1] Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; include self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.
[2] Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
Current month preliminary. *Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.*

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Dec. 1979	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1980	Dec. 1979	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1980	Dec. 1979	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1980	Dec. 1979	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1980
STATEWIDE	364.3	348.8	353.5	345.3	322.4	328.7	19.0	26.4	24.8	*5.2*	*7.6*	*7.0*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	33.1	32.2	31.8	31.2	29.5	29.4	1.9	2.7	2.4	*5.6*	*8.3*	*7.5*
BILLINGS SMSA	56.2	55.0	56.1	54.1	51.9	53.0	2.1	3.1	3.1	*3.7*	*5.6*	*5.5*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	275.0	261.6	265.6	260.0	241.0	246.3	15.0	20.6	19.3	*5.5*	*7.9*	*7.3*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	33.4	31.0	31.8	31.6	28.8	29.6	1.8	2.2	2.2	*5.4*	*7.0*	*6.8*
BOZEMAN	26.2	25.0	25.8	24.9	23.2	23.9	1.3	1.8	1.9	*5.1*	*7.2*	*7.5*
GLASGOW	16.9	16.0	16.5	16.3	15.1	15.7	.6	.9	.8	*3.3*	*5.7*	*4.9*
GLENDIVE	14.4	13.4	13.8	13.9	12.9	13.2	.5	.5	.6	*3.2*	*3.9*	*4.1*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	12.2	11.7	12.0	11.6	10.9	11.2	.6	.8	.8	*4.6*	*7.1*	*6.5*
HAVRE	13.0	12.2	12.5	12.3	11.3	11.7	.7	.9	.8	*5.3*	*7.6*	*6.7*
HELENA	27.5	26.6	26.5	26.1	24.7	24.9	1.4	1.9	1.6	*5.0*	*7.0*	*6.0*
KALISPELL	39.2	38.1	38.3	36.2	33.9	34.3	3.0	4.2	4.0	*7.7*	*11.0*	*10.3*
LEWISTOWN	10.4	10.0	10.2	10.1	9.3	9.6	.3	.7	.6	*3.3*	*6.7*	*5.7*
MILES CITY	14.6	13.6	13.9	14.0	12.8	13.2	.6	.8	.7	*4.0*	*5.9*	*5.3*
MISSOULA	50.8	48.2	48.3	47.3	43.6	44.0	3.5	4.6	4.3	*6.9*	*9.5*	*8.9*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.6	15.6	16.0	15.7	14.3	14.9	.9	1.3	1.1	*5.3*	*8.2*	*7.0*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Feb. 1980	Feb. 1979	Percent Change 1979-1980	Feb. 1980	Feb. 1979	Percent Change 1979-1980	Feb. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Change 1979-1980	Feb. 1980	Feb. 1979	Net Change 1979-1980
STATEWIDE	353.5	347.9	*1.6*	328.7	323.2	*1.7*	24.8	24.7	*.1*	7.0	7.1	*-.1*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	31.8	33.1	*-3.9*	29.4	30.4	*-3.3*	2.4	2.7	*-.3*	7.5	8.1	*-.6*
BILLINGS SMSA	56.1	52.8	*6.2*	53.0	50.1	*5.8*	3.1	2.7	*.4*	5.5	5.1	*.4*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	265.6	262.0	*1.4*	246.3	242.7	*1.5*	19.3	19.3	*0*	7.3	7.4	*-.1*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	31.8	33.2	*-4.2*	29.6	30.6	*-3.3*	2.2	2.6	*-.4*	6.8	7.9	*-1.1*
BOZEMAN	25.8	25.5	*1.2*	23.9	24.0	*-.4*	1.9	1.5	*.4*	7.5	6.1	*1.4*
GLASGOW	16.5	15.6	*5.8*	15.7	14.8	*6.1*	.8	.8	*0*	4.9	5.2	*-.3*
GLENDIVE	13.8	13.5	*2.2*	13.2	13.0	*1.5*	.6	.5	*.1*	4.1	3.7	*.4*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	12.0	11.7	*2.6*	11.2	11.0	*1.8*	.8	.7	*.1*	6.5	5.8	*.7*
HAVRE	12.5	12.1	*3.3*	11.7	11.3	*3.5*	.8	.8	*0*	6.7	6.4	*.3*
HELENA	26.5	27.2	*-2.6*	24.9	25.2	*-1.2*	1.6	2.0	*-.4*	6.0	7.4	*-1.4*
KALISPELL	38.3	36.7	*4.4*	34.3	33.0	*3.9*	4.0	3.7	*.3*	10.3	10.0	*.3*
LEWISTOWN	10.2	9.9	*3.0*	9.6	9.3	*3.2*	.6	.6	*0*	5.7	5.5	*.2*
MILES CITY	13.9	14.0	*-.7*	13.2	13.1	*.8*	.7	.9	*-.2*	5.3	6.1	*-.8*
MISSOULA	48.3	46.7	*3.4*	44.0	42.6	*3.3*	4.3	4.1	*.2*	8.9	8.7	*.2*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.0	15.9	*.6*	14.9	14.6	*2.1*	1.1	1.3	*-.2*	7.0	7.9	*-.9*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

TABLE IX-A

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA
FEBRUARY 1980

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	353503	328671	24832	7.0
CASCADE	31743	29352	2391	7.5
YELLOWSTONE	56088	53006	3082	5.5
BEAVERHEAD	3621	3420	201	5.6
BIG HORN	5573	5162	411	7.4
BLAINE	3020	2732	288	9.5
BROADWATER	1467	1354	113	7.7
CARBON	3985	3785	204	6.8
CARTER	784	667	117	14.9
CHOUTEAU	2579	2505	74	2.9
CUSTER	5517	5274	243	4.4
DANIELS	1327	1303	24	1.8
DAWSON	5268	5044	224	4.3
DEER LODGE	4976	4569	407	8.2
FALLON	2296	2222	74	3.2
FERGUS	5662	5297	365	6.4
FLATHEAD	23690	21362	2328	9.8
GALLATIN	19155	17795	1360	7.1
GARFIELD	751	672	79	10.5
GLACIER	5006	4444	562	11.2
GOLDEN VALLEY	343	317	26	7.6
GRANITE	1020	917	103	10.1
HILL	8437	7946	491	5.8
JEFFERSON	2106	1919	187	8.9
JUDITH BASIN	1049	931	118	11.2
LAKE	7569	6961	608	8.0
LEWIS AND CLARK	22969	21675	1294	5.6
LIBERTY	1037	980	57	5.5
LINCOLN	7055	6027	1028	14.6
MC CONE	1067	1045	22	2.1
MADISON	2079	1960	119	5.7
MEAGHER	887	845	42	4.7
MINERAL	1773	1542	231	13.0
MISSOULA	35388	32669	2719	7.7
MUSSELSHELL	1859	1813	46	2.5
PARK	5811	5284	527	9.1
PETROLEUM	273	265	8	2.9
PHILLIPS	2385	2254	131	5.5
PONDERA	3413	3232	181	5.3
POWDER RIVER	983	954	29	3.0
POWELL	3525	3340	185	5.2
PRAIRIE	704	661	43	6.1
RAVALLI	7563	6651	912	12.1
RICHLAND	5352	5176	176	3.3
ROOSEVELT	5754	5447	307	5.3
ROSEBUD	3998	3742	256	6.4
SANDERS	3563	3135	428	12.0
SHERIDAN	2688	2643	45	1.7
SILVER BOW	16511	15365	1146	6.9
STILLWATER	2004	1880	124	6.2
SWEET GRASS	1395	1357	38	2.7
TETON	2549	2387	162	6.4
TOOLE	2492	2345	147	5.9
TREASURE	378	361	17	4.5
VALLEY	4345	4050	295	6.8
WHEATLAND	1051	1031	20	1.9
WIBAUX	616	599	17	2.8

TABLE IX-B

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA
JANUARY 1980

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	348601	322423	26378	7.6
CASCADE	32183	29499	2684	8.3
YELLOWSTONE	54951	51865	3086	5.6
BEAVERHEAD	3597	3358	239	6.6
BIG HORN	5532	5115	467	8.4
BLAINE	2919	2612	307	10.5
BROADWATER	1458	1324	134	9.2
CARBON	2910	2712	198	6.8
CARTER	741	632	109	14.7
CHOUTEAU	2487	2397	90	3.6
CUSTER	5395	5137	258	4.8
DANIELS	1266	1244	22	1.7
DAWSON	5114	4896	218	4.3
DEER LODGE	4778	4396	382	8.0
FALLON	2201	2117	84	3.8
FERGUS	5528	5144	384	6.9
FLATHEAD	23463	21039	2424	10.3
GALLATIN	18485	17340	1146	6.2
GARFIELD	701	650	51	7.3
GLACIER	4933	4301	632	12.8
GOLDEN VALLEY	316	300	16	5.1
GRANITE	951	856	95	10.0
HILL	8338	7785	553	6.6
JEFFERSON	2067	1891	176	8.5
JUDITH BASIN	1047	886	161	15.4
LAKE	7664	6888	776	10.1
LEWIS AND CLARK	23033	21491	1542	6.7
LIBERTY	1000	929	71	7.1
LINCOLN	6939	5943	996	14.4
MC CONE	1050	1012	38	3.6
MADISON	1958	1833	125	6.4
MEAGHER	888	825	63	7.1
MINERAL	1746	1508	238	13.6
MISSOULA	35427	32437	2990	8.4
MUSSELSHELL	1823	1745	78	4.3
PARK	5676	5072	604	10.6
PETROLEUM	256	248	8	3.1
PHILLIPS	2336	2186	150	6.4
PONDERA	3273	3046	227	6.9
POWDER RIVER	974	918	56	5.7
POWELL	3484	3210	274	7.9
PRAIRIE	664	633	31	4.7
RAVALLI	7511	6562	949	12.6
RICHLAND	5271	5109	162	3.1
ROOSEVELT	5516	5188	328	5.9
ROSEBUD	3978	3698	280	7.0
SANDERS	3544	3126	418	11.8
SHERIDAN	2668	2576	92	3.4
SILVER BOW	16266	15199	1067	6.6
STILLWATER	1867	1733	134	7.2
SWEET GRASS	1364	1332	32	2.3
TETON	2447	2302	145	5.9
TOOLE	2485	2291	194	7.8
TREASURE	358	339	19	5.3
VALLEY	4263	3934	329	7.7
WHEATLAND	996	979	17	1.7
WIBAUX	664	635	29	4.4

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT					TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
				Net Change to Current Month From:		Total	Percent Women	Total	Percent Women
	Feb. 1980 1/	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Jan 1980	Feb 1980	Feb 1980		Jan 1980	
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers .	132.9	133.0	122.4	-.1	10.5	276.8	*48.0*	277.8	*47.9*
Manufacturing	3.3	3.4	3.1	-.1	.2	25.7	*12.8*	25.9	*13.1*
Mining	.5	.5	.4	0	.1	7.3	*6.8*	7.6	*6.6*
Contract Construction	1.4	1.4	1.3	0	.1	11.5	*12.2*	11.7	*12.0*
Transportation & Public Utilities .	4.2	4.2	4.1	0	.1	22.6	*18.6*	22.7	*18.5*
Wholesale & Retail Trade	36.5	36.5	35.6	0	.9	71.9	*50.8*	72.3	*50.8*
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate ..	8.4	8.4	8.3	0	.1	12.7	*66.1*	12.7	*66.1*
Services	36.2	36.2	34.8	0	1.4	54.2	*66.8*	53.9	*67.2*
Government 2/	42.5	42.5	34.8	0	7.7	71.0	*59.9*	71.1	*59.8*

1/ Current month preliminary. Revised to 1976 Benchmark. Establishment Series began January 1974.

2/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE XI

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

1979

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	126.7	122.4	124.2	126.5	128.1	129.1	127.7	128.5	130.4	130.3	132.6	132.7	128.2
Manufacturing.....	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.2
Mining.....	.4	.4	.4	.4	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.4	.4	.4
Contract Construction.....	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	38.7	35.6	35.7	35.7	36.5	36.8	36.3	36.0	37.0	36.9	36.8	37.2	36.7
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate..	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.4
Services.....	35.0	34.8	35.0	34.7	35.0	34.9	34.1	34.3	34.7	35.1	35.3	35.2	34.8
Government.....	35.7	34.8	36.2	38.8	38.9	38.9	38.7	38.8	40.3	39.9	42.5	42.5	38.8

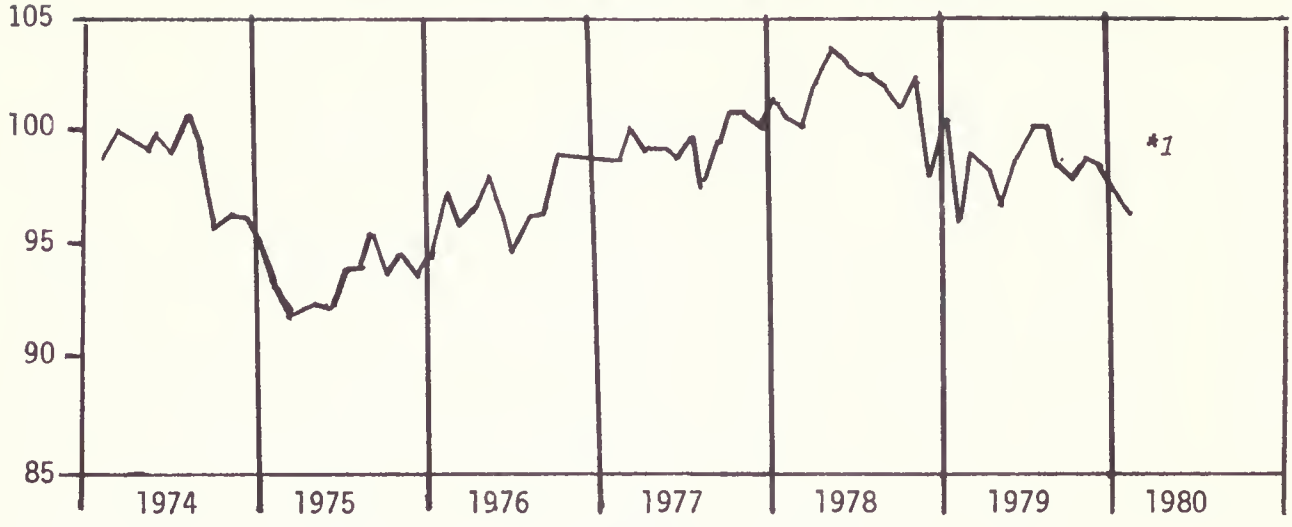
1980

	Jan.	Feb.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary.	133.0	132.9
Manufacturing.....	3.4	3.3
Mining.....	.5	.5
Contract Construction.....	1.4	1.4
Transport. & Public Utilities.	4.2	4.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	36.5	36.5
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate..	8.4	8.4
Services	36.2	36.2
Government.....	42.5	42.5

1/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged. Establishment Series began January, 1974. Revised to 1979 Benchmark
Prepared by Montana Employment Security Division in cooperation with U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS



INDEX 1972 = 100

MONTHLY FIGURES
of COMPOSITE INDEX

1978	
January	100.6
Feburary	*100.2*
March	102.2
April	102.8
May	103.1
1979	
January	*96.1*
February	98.6
March	*98.2*
April	*96.4*
May	98.5
June	100.4
July	*100.3*
August	*98.9*
September	*98.4*
October	99.2
November	*98.5*
December	*97.8*
1980	
January	*96.7*

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

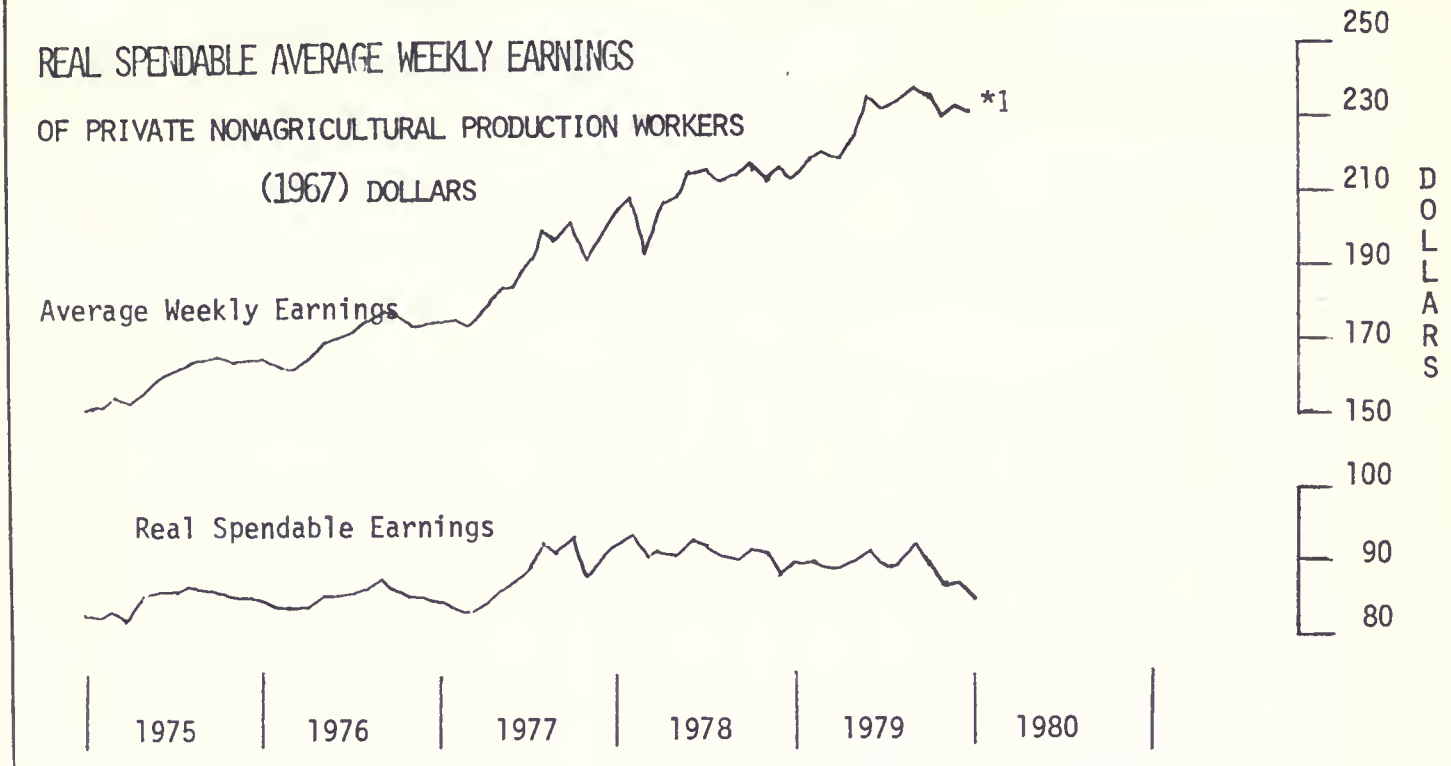
Over the past three years, the month of January has shown negativity in the performance of the Composite Index. January of 1980 has demonstrated a more intense downward movement indicated by a third consecutive monthly decline, while January 1978 and 1979 figures were only first month declines. In January, 1979 the harsh winter was a major factor in the considerable reduction of the Composite Index, and this year's slower paced economy seems to be contracting the Composite Index.

Average Weekly Initial Claims, Manufacturing accession rate, Manufacturing Employment, and Building Permits were placed on the negative margin, which is the same as last months unfavorable components of the Composite Index. Positive activity was recorded by Manufacturing Layoff Rate and Manufacturing Average Weekly Hours.

Components of Composite Index

Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits; and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.

* *Indicates last month of plotted data.*
** *Figures in italics indicate declines from previous month.*



	Jan. 1980	Dec. 1979	Jan 1979
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	232.60	233.24	215.42
3/ Taxes Withheld	35.37	35.13	32.18
Spendable Earnings	197.23	198.11	182.59
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	112.69	111.99	93.39
Real Spendable Earnings	84.54	86.12	89.20

1979	1) Average Weekly Earnings	2) Real Spendable Earnings
Jan.	215.42	89.20
Feb.	219.57	89.60
Mar.	221.43	89.29
Apr.	220.68	88.10
May	225.42	88.52
June	236.99	91.26
July	233.87	89.41
Aug.	234.99	88.73
Sept.	238.74	91.96
Oct.	236.90	89.02
Nov.	230.62	86.23
Dec.	233.24	86.12
1980		
Jan.	232.60	84.54

REAL SPENDABLE EARNINGS

January's average weekly earnings dipped slightly from December's pay. The 8% increase in wages between January, 1980 and January 1979 is considerably less than the Consumer Price Index increase of 14% for the same time period.

Increases in taxes and inflation pulled January's real spendable earnings down by $5.25 from one year earlier. Not since April, 1977 have the real spendable earnings fallen below $85.00. The inflation rate is expected to continue at a high rate through 1980; thus real spendable earnings may drop even lower than January's $84.54.

** Indicates last month of plotted data.*
1/ Average Weekly earnings of total private nonagricultural production workers
2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.
3/ Taxes computed on family with four exemptions.

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2/]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1/] Montana	Percent[1/] U. S.	
1978								
January	358.4	335.5	302.1	33.4	22.9	6.4	6.3	*
February	360.0	337.4	303.8	33.6	22.6	6.3	6.1	*
March	364.2	340.1	306.6	33.5	24.1	6.6	6.2	*
April	366.1	344.3	312.0	32.3	21.8	6.0	6.1	*
May	367.7	346.1	313.0	33.1	21.6	5.9	6.1	.1
June	368.9	346.6	313.5	33.1	22.3	6.0	5.8	.4
July	372.2	349.9	316.8	33.1	22.3	6.0	6.1	.2
August	371.9	349.8	316.9	32.9	22.1	5.9	5.9	.1
September	372.6	351.0	318.3	32.7	21.6	5.8	5.9	.1
October	370.7	350.5	317.9	32.6	20.2	5.4	5.8	.1
November	371.8	350.4	317.8	32.6	21.4	5.8	5.8	*
December	371.5	350.3	317.6	32.7	21.2	5.7	5.9	*
Avg.	368.0	346.0	313.0	33.0	22.0	6.0	6.0	.1
1979								
January	370.3	346.8	314.1	32.7	23.5	6.4	5.8	*
February	368.4	347.5	314.8	32.7	20.9	5.7	5.7	1.8
March	366.8	347.3	314.7	32.6	19.5	5.3	5.7	*
April	367.9	347.6	315.2	32.4	20.3	5.5	5.8	*
May	370.5	351.1	318.9	32.2	19.4	5.2	5.8	*
June	371.5	352.9	320.8	32.1	18.6	5.0	5.7	*
July	368.7	350.0	318.1	31.9	18.7	5.1	5.7	*
August	368.0	350.7	318.9	31.8	17.3	4.7	5.9	*
September	369.9	352.8	320.9	31.9	17.1	4.6	5.8	*
October	372.2	354.9	322.9	32.0	17.3	4.7	5.9	*
November	372.5	355.4	323.4	32.0	17.1	4.6	5.8	*
December	373.5	355.1	323.0	32.1	18.4	4.9	5.9	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	5.1	5.8	.2
1980								
January	370.3	348.4	316.3	32.1	21.9	5.9	6.2	*
February	374.0	353.0	321.0	32.0	21.0	5.6	6.0	1.1
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XIII

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1978								
January	33.3	30.9	29.6	1.3	2.4	7.2	6.4	*
February	34.2	31.6	30.3	1.3	2.6	7.5	6.3	*
March	34.0	31.6	30.3	1.3	2.4	7.1	6.6	*
April	34.3	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.1	6.3	6.0	*
May	34.5	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.3	6.6	5.9	*
June	34.7	32.3	31.0	1.3	2.4	6.9	6.0	*
July	34.2	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.3	6.8	6.0	*
August	34.7	32.3	31.0	1.3	2.4	6.9	5.9	*
September	34.7	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.5	7.1	5.8	*
October	34.3	32.1	30.8	1.3	2.2	6.4	5.4	*
November	34.2	31.7	30.4	1.3	2.5	7.4	5.8	*
December	34.6	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.6	7.5	5.7	*
Avg.	34.3	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.4	7.0	6.0	*
1979								
January	34.6	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.7	7.8	6.4	*
February	34.7	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.5	7.2	5.7	*
March	34.2	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.2	6.5	5.3	*
April	34.3	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.3	6.7	5.5	*
May	34.2	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.2	6.4	5.2	*
June	34.3	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.0	*
July	34.2	32.1	30.8	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.1	*
August	33.8	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.0	5.9	4.7	*
September	33.7	31.8	20.5	1.3	1.9	5.5	4.6	*
October	33.5	31.7	30.4	1.3	1.8	5.3	4.7	*
November	33.5	31.7	30.4	1.3	1.8	5.4	4.6	*
December	33.4	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.8	5.5	4.9	
Avg.	34.0	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.1	*
1980								
January	33.3	31.0	29.7	1.3	2.3	6.8	5.9	*
February	33.4	31.2	29.9	1.3	2.2	6.6	5.6	*
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*
* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XIV

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1978								
January	52.0	49.4	47.9	1.5	2.6	*5.1*	*6.4*	*
February	52.3	49.7	48.2	1.5	2.6	*4.9*	*6.3*	*
March	53.1	50.1	48.6	1.5	3.0	*5.6*	*6.6*	*
April	52.8	50.4	48.9	1.5	2.4	*4.6*	*6.0*	*
May	53.3	50.8	49.3	1.5	2.5	*4.7*	*5.9*	*
June	53.6	51.1	49.6	1.5	2.5	*4.6*	*6.0*	*
July	53.3	50.9	49.4	1.5	2.4	*4.6*	*6.0*	*
August	54.0	51.5	50.0	1.5	2.5	*4.6*	*5.9*	*
September	54.4	52.0	50.5	1.5	2.4	*4.5*	*5.8*	*
October	54.0	51.9	50.4	1.5	2.1	*3.8*	*5.4*	*
November	54.4	51.7	50.2	1.5	2.7	*4.9*	*5.8*	*
December	54.2	51.8	50.3	1.5	2.4	*4.4*	*5.7*	*
Avg.	53.4	50.9	49.4	1.5	2.5	*4.7*	*6.0*	*
1979								
January	54.8	52.2	50.7	1.5	2.6	*4.8*	*6.4*	*
February	54.7	52.4	50.9	1.5	2.3	*4.2*	*5.7*	*
March	54.5	52.4	50.9	1.5	2.1	*3.9*	*5.3*	*
April	55.0	52.9	51.4	1.5	2.1	*3.9*	*5.5*	*
May	55.3	53.2	51.7	1.5	2.1	*3.8*	*5.2*	*
June	55.2	53.3	51.8	1.5	1.9	*3.4*	*5.0*	*
July	55.9	53.9	52.4	1.5	2.0	*3.5*	*5.1*	*
August	55.8	53.9	52.4	1.5	1.9	*3.3*	*4.7*	*
September	55.5	53.7	52.2	1.5	1.8	*3.3*	*4.6*	*
October	55.5	53.7	52.2	1.5	1.8	*3.2*	*4.7*	*
November	55.9	54.0	52.5	1.5	1.9	*3.5*	*4.6*	*
December	55.8	53.9	52.4	1.5	1.9	*3.4*	*4.9*	*
Avg.	55.3	53.3	51.8	1.5	2.0	*3.7*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	56.6	54.1	52.6	1.5	2.5	*4.4*	*5.9*	*
February	*58.0*	*55.3*	*53.8*	*1.5*	*2.7*	*4.6*	*5.6*	.7
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

TABLE XV

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

February 1980

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
TOTAL PRIVATE	$225.07	232.60	219.57	35.5	36.4	35.3	6.34	6.39	6.22
MANUFACTURING	371.28	383.63	338.55	42.0	45.4	40.4	8.84	8.45	8.38
Durable Goods	386.69	414.01	341.48	42.4	47.1	39.8	9.12	8.79	8.58
Primary Metal Industries	413.34	411.10	368.95	41.5	41.4	39.8	9.96	9.93	9.27
Nondurable Goods	346.94	343.54	329.92	41.8	42.1	41.5	8.30	8.16	7.95
Food and Kindred Products	286.89	280.67	258.69	43.8	44.2	42.2	6.55	6.35	6.13
MINING	441.21	441.60	460.27	46.2	46.0	48.5	9.55	9.60	9.49
Metal Mining	428.05	428.05	452.28	35.0	35.0	40.6	12.23	12.23	11.14
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	369.63	369.63	333.00	37.0	37.0	33.3	9.99	9.99	10.00
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	332.35	333.13	325.21	42.5	42.6	40.1	7.82	7.82	8.11
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	367.73	367.73	320.30	50.1	50.1	42.2	7.34	7.34	7.59
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	165.55	167.59	171.48	30.6	31.8	32.6	5.41	5.27	5.26
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	155.69	157.43	154.13	33.7	34.6	34.1	4.62	4.55	4.52
SERVICES	150.58	150.93	140.03	35.1	35.1	33.5	4.29	4.30	4.18

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE XVI

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

	ACCESSION RATES									SEPARATION RATES								
	Total			New Hires			Recalls			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Jan. 1980	Dec. 1979	Jan. 1979	Jan. 1980	Dec. 1979	Jan. 1979	Jan. 1980	Dec. 1979	Jan. 1979	Jan. 1980	Dec. 1979	Jan. 1979	Jan. 1980	Dec. 1979	Jan. 1979	Jan. 1980	Dec. 1979	Jan. 1979
MANUFACTURING	1.0	1.9	2.2	0.8	0.8	2.0	0.1	0.3	0.1	1.0	2.8	2.6	0.6	0.8	1.5	0.3	1.5	0.2
Durable Goods	0.8	0.6	1.5	0.5	0.1	1.3	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.5	3.3	2.2	0.0	0.2	1.0	0.4	2.3	0.2
Primary Metal Industries	1.5	0.7	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3	2.7	5.8	3.2	0.3	0.2	0.9	1.8	2.0	0.5
Nondurable Goods	1.4	4.2	3.5	1.3	2.2	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.9	2.0	3.3	1.7	1.7	2.5	0.1	0.1	0.1
MINING	1.4	6.6	4.3	0.0	6.0	4.1	0.0	0.6	*	1.1	12.4	3.5	1.0	9.2	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Metal Mining	4.8	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	11.1	1.5	0.0	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0

** Less than .05.*

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE XVII

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggrigate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year. Foreign corporation classification has been added and are considered established corporations from other states registered to do business in Montana. County tabulation is not possible, only industry structure is known.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

Industry	FEB 1980	FEB 1979	Year to Date 1980	Year to Date 1979
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	31	32	78	77
MINING	18	9	55	25
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	48	43	115	115
MANUFACTURING	22	12	56	40
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	34	21	53	48
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	123	75	274	201
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	50	39	104	99
SERVICES	160	107	337	264
NON-PROFIT SERVICES	(26)	(21)	(66)	(40)
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	42	13	58	16
STATE TOTAL	528	351	1130	885

TABLE XVIII

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS FEB 1980	FEB 1979	Year to Date 1980	1979
STATE OF MONTANA	528	351	1130	885
GREAT FALLS SMSA	42	31	85	61
BILLINGS SMSA	83	56	163	155
FOREIGN CORPORATIONS MULTI-COUNTY	38	INA	84	INA
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	41	24	76	57
Beaverhead	4	6	15	9
Deer Lodge	3	4	4	7
Granite	1	1	4	6
Madison	5	3	10	9
Powell	7	0	9	1
Silver Bow	21	10	34	25
BOZEMAN LMA	36	26	75	62
Gallatin	28	20	54	44
Meagher	0	1	2	2
Park	8	5	19	16
GLASGOW LMA	15	7	34	35
Daniels	1	2	2	3
Phillips	3	1	6	7
Roosevelt	4	1	10	8
Sheridan	4	2	8	6
Valley	3	1	8	11
GLENDIVE LMA	32	13	69	39
Dawson	9	3	22	8
Garfield	2	0	3	1
McCone	6	0	10	1
Prairie	1	0	4	3
Richland	13	10	29	25
Wibaux	1	0	1	1
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	9	13	25	29
Big Horn	4	4	8	6
Carbon	1	7	5	15
Stillwater	4	2	9	4
Sweet Grass	0	0	3	4

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS FEB 1980	FEB 1979	Year to Date 1980	1979
HAVRE LMA	15	12	27	26
Blaine	2	3	6	4
Hill	12	8	20	21
Liberty	1	1	1	1
HELENA LMA	31	23	73	80
Broadwater	0	5	1	6
Jefferson	2	0	6	6
Lewis and Clark	29	18	66	68
KALISPELL LMA	52	45	138	101
Flathead	30	21	90	64
Lake	13	9	26	15
Lincoln	9	15	22	22
LEWISTOWN LMA	14	10	24	18
Fergus	7	7	12	11
Golden Valley	2	0	2	0
Judith Basin	2	0	3	3
Musselshell	2	2	6	3
Petroleum	1	0	1	0
Wheatland	0	1	0	1
MILES CITY LMA	18	17	38	30
Carter	2	0	2	0
Custer	5	8	8	15
Fallon	4	5	11	7
Powder River	0	1	3	1
Rosebud	6	3	13	6
Treasure	1	0	1	1
MISSOULA LMA	83	53	160	157
Mineral	2	2	4	3
Missoula	61	41	120	117
Ravalli	13	8	25	29
Sanders	7	2	11	8
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	19	21	59	35
Chouteau	5	6	11	8
Glacier	6	3	20	8
Pondera	3	6	10	9
Teton	1	0	2	2
Toole	4	6	16	8

Sources of data: *State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.*

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIM TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons; to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week and for how many potential weeks is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individual's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under the Montana Law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

ETA5-159B DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
FEBRUARY 1980

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	338	29,736.45
BIGHORN	602	53,740.34
BLAINE	394	34,699.70
BROADWATER	213	21,657.00
CARBON	475	49,300.44
CARTER	25	2,417.00
CASCADE	5,614	538,575.81
CHOUTEAU	95	7,305.16
CUSTER	486	45,027.44
DANIELS	29	2,377.26
DAWSON	313	31,066.54
DEER LODGE	731	66,635.05
FALLON	81	7,569.00
FERGUS	665	59,391.56
FLATHEAD	4,349	383,503.84
GALLATIN	3,045	283,123.40
GARFIELD	6	714.00
GLACIER	1,070	87,638.03
GOLDEN VALLEY	18	1,884.00
GRANITE	153	12,074.66
HILL	1,002	88,279.86
JEFFERSON	354	37,176.36
JUDITH BASIN	40	3,261.94
LAKE	1,322	118,012.95
LEWIS AND CLARK	2,738	251,093.77
LIBERTY	85	8,438.00
LINCOLN	1,842	155,760.73
MCCONE	32	2,170.00
MADISON	144	12,027.15
MEAGHER	53	4,369.54
MINERAL	493	44,649.80
MISSOULA	5,751	516,026.72
MUSSELSHELL	93	9,281.00
PARK	970	79,969.60
PETROLEUM	12	399.00
PHILLIPS	188	16,729.66
PONDERA	406	39,747.85
POWDER RIVER	41	4,200.00
POWELL	332	29,190.40
PRAIRIE	65	6,337.64
RAVALLI	1,904	165,885.82
RICHLAND	236	21,367.16
ROOSEVELT	310	25,126.88
ROSEBUD	472	43,437.62
SANDERS	915	79,811.40
SHERIDAN	62	5,511.00
SILVER BOW	2,202	205,432.13
STILLWATER	329	32,748.00
SWEET GRASS	82	8,983.28
TETON	289	26,569.76
TOOLE	308	31,439.20
TREASURE	26	2,972.00
VALLEY	534	49,267.59
WHEATLAND	28	2,594.05
WIBAUX	26	2,171.00
YELLOWSTONE	7,590	768,585.52
INTRASTATE	49,983	4,619,155 .05
INTERSTATE	1,769	165,200.36
TOTAL	51,752	4.784.355.41

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JANUARY 1980 THRU FEBRUARY 1980

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	683	61,997.22
BIGHORN	1,105	96,816.28
BLAINE	737	64,882.76
BROADWATER	463	46,911.33
CARBON	882	88,427.39
CARTER	47	4,179.52
CASCADE	11,100	1,055,718.28
CHOUTEAU	189	14,323.36
CUSTER	899	83,240.54
DANIELS	52	4,320.26
DAWSON	634	60,973.71
DEER LODGE	1,567	141,160.03
FALLON	151	13,935.00
FERGUS	1,248	112,755.51
FLATHEAD	8,846	782,288.19
GALLATIN	5,283	479,282.78
GARFIELD	14	1,592.00
GLACIER	1,904	151,339.76
GOLDEN VALLEY	27	2,761.00
GRANITE	311	24,380.86
HILL	2,059	179,308.03
JEFFERSON	674	70,175.10
JUDITH BASIN	78	6,912.94
LAKE	2,565	227,572.56
LEWIS AND CLARK	5,362	495,810.51
LIBERTY	147	14,447.80
LINCOLN	3,837	325,813.10
MCCONE	60	4,408.00
MADISON	243	20,318.67
MEAGHER	114	9,045.44
MINERAL	918	82,667.37
MISSOULA	11,825	1,058,744.46
MUSSELSHELL	179	17,936.00
PARK	1,941	163,516.02
PETROLEUM	27	2,022.75
PHILLIPS	397	35,510.46
PONDERA	684	67,163.09
POWDER RIVER	75	7,643.00
POWELL	892	79,150.39
PRAIRIE	132	12,586.92
RAVALLI	3,999	343,399.74
RICHLAND	338	30,085.84
ROOSEVELT	648	53,221.99
ROSEBUD	893	80,151.40
SANDERS	1,854	167,220.29
SHERIDAN	120	10,425.00
SILVER BOW	4,271	389,737.80
STILLWATER	580	57,318.00
SWEET GRASS	137	14,518.05
TETON	556	50,763.82
TOOLE	510	51,673.19
TREASURE	50	5,605.00
VALLEY	1,014	93,523.66
WHEATLAND	60	5,364.65
WIBAUX	55	5,086.00
YELLOWSTONE	13,135	1,314,223.51
INTRASTATE	96,571	8,845,538.63
INTERSTATE	3,592	351,998.26
TOTAL	100,163	9,197,536.89

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	1980	1979	Net Change	Percent Change
Initial Claims[1/]	13,488	12,914	574	*4.4*
Continued Claims[1/]	125,800	114,502	11,298	*9.9*
Number of Benefit Payments[1/]	100,163	97,075	3,088	*3.2*
Amount of Benefits Paid[1/]	$9,197,536	$8,326,783	$870,753	*10.5*
Average Weekly Benefit Amount[1/2/]	$95.86	$89.39	$6.47	*7.2*

MONTHLY

	February 1980	January 1980	February 1979	Change From Year Ago Net	Change From Year Ago Percent
Initial Claims[1/]	4,096	9,392	4,654	-558	*-12.0*
Continued Claims[1/]	61,785	64,015	53,686	8,099	*15.1*
Number of Benefit Payments[1/]	51,752	48,411	47,607	4,145	*8.7*
Amount of Benefits Paid[1/]	$4,784,355	$4,413,181	$4,061,570	$722,785	*17.8*
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt[1/2/]	$96.51	$95.15	$89.08	$7.43	*8.3*
Trust Fund Balance	$14,547,295*	$15,175,674*	$1,394,442**	$13,152,853	*943.2*

1/ Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.
2/ Derived according to definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".
** Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to* $ 7,084,089.
*** Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to* $10,484,089.

The number of initial claims for February dropped back to the typical winter level from the beginning-of-the-quarter high in January, and was down also from a year ago because of the more open winter this year. Continued claims count was less than last month but higher than February 1979. Year-to-date figures show a small increase from last year for both initial and continued claims.

This month the number of benefit payments exceeded last month and last year by about 3,300 and 4,000 respectively. The amount of benefits paid in February surpassed that of both January and a year ago, with a 17.8% change from February 1979.

The cumulative number and amount of benefits for the first two months of 1980 were slightly higher than in the same period last year.

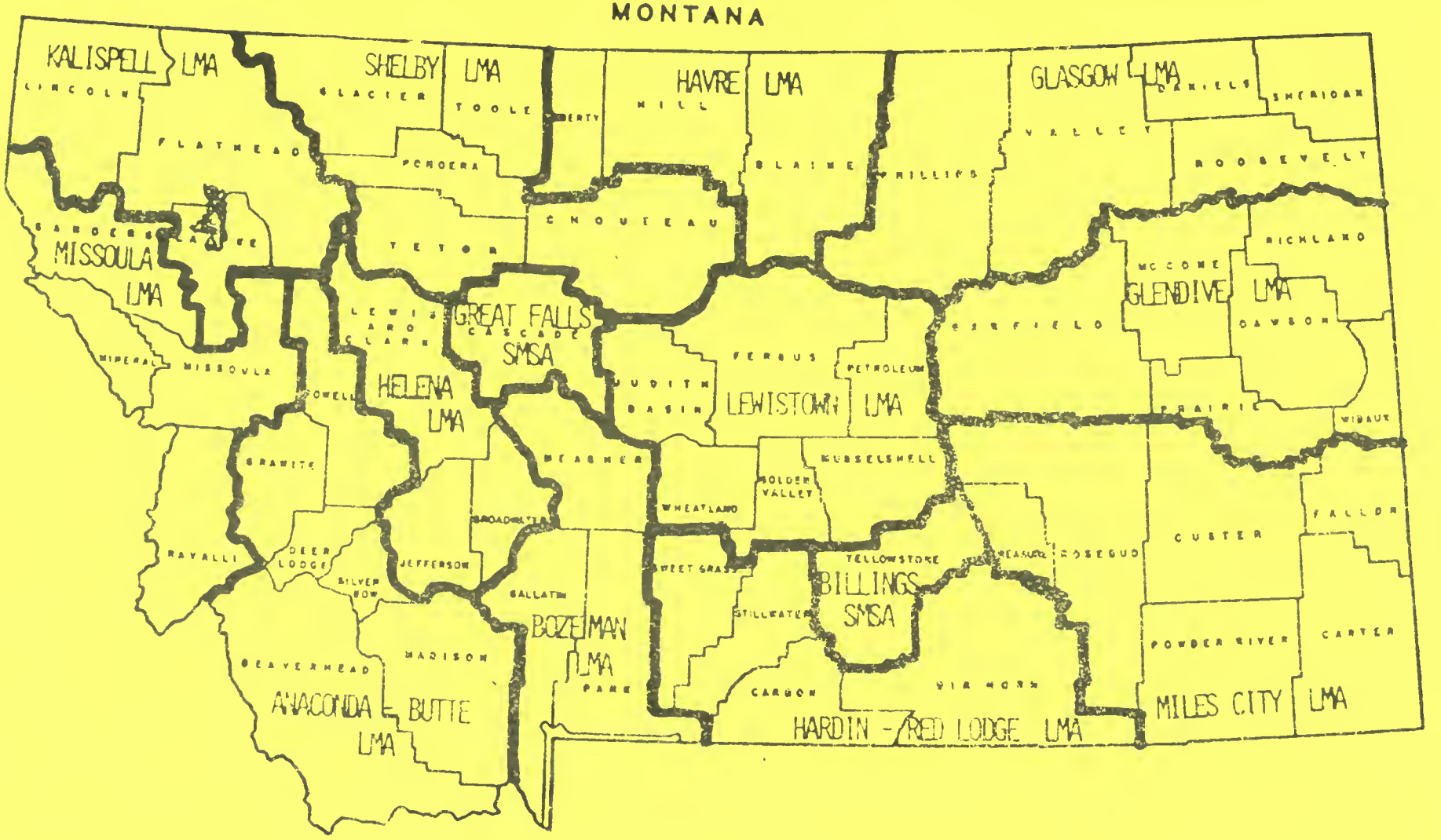
In February the Average Weekly Benefit Amount rose $1.36 from January but gained $7.43 from a year ago. For the year-to-date period of 1980 the AWBA was $6.47 more than in 1979. This time of year always has the highest payments.

Because the middle month of a quarter is the time when most contributions are received, the Trust Fund Balance for February was reduced only by about $600,000 from last month despite high winter unemployment. A year ago the fund was just beginning to build back up so was less than one-tenth of the current balance.

LABOR MARKET AREAS

IN

MONTANA



MONTANA EMPLOYMENT
SECURITY DIVISION
P.O. BOX 1728
HELENA, MONTANA 59601

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The Montana State Employment Security Division maintains 24 local Job Service Offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.

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